(b) if so, the details thereof and the need of such consultants;

(c) the payments provided to such consultants;

(d) whether it is a fact that suggestions and ideas and experience related proposals from non-funded organizations and individuals are immediately rejected; and

(e) the steps proposed by NHAI to respond better to the suggestions of road safety organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has appointed M/s. Span Consultants Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi in Joint Venture with Danish Road Directorate, Ministry of Transport, Denmark to define road safety policy and develop action plans under the provisions of World Bank.

In addition to above, road safety audit for certain stretches *i.e.* Western Transport Corridor through international consultants under Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan has been carried out and road safety (public education) under World Bank Loan for Chennai-Kolkatta, Delhi-Kolkatta, Delhi-Mumbai and Mumbai-Chennai Section of Golden Quadrilateral is in progress. These consultants were required to introduce international practices on road safety audit and public education on road safety in India.

(c) The total cost of consultancy services to define road safety policy and develop action plans is USS 214400.00 & 82,54,000/- respectively. Road Safety audit was carried in four packages and the total cost of consultancy was US$1.62 million. Consultancy for road safety (public education) is in progress and an amount of Rs. 1.92 crore have been paid to the consultants till date.

(d) No, Sir. The proposals received are given due consideration.

(e) NHAI has constituted a Road Safety Cell to respond better to the suggestions of Road Safety Organizations.

Satwari to R.S. Pura Road in Jammu

1510. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for upgradation and widening of remaining unfinished road from Satwari to R.S. Pura in Jammu (J&K) under Central Road Fund Scheme; and

(b) if so, the present details of the progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Widening and upgradation of double lane Satwari Airport-RS Pura road was sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 1146 lakhs under Central Road Fund Scheme on 3rd August, 2005. The work is in progress and an expenditure of Rs. 1010 lakhs has been incurred so far. No other proposal has been received from the State Government from Satwari to R.S. Pura in J&K under Central Road Fund Scheme.